

II. Claims

Claims 1-6, 8-14, 16-22, 24 and 25 are currently pending. Claims 1, 5, 9, 17 and 25 are amended as set forth below. New Claims 26-30 have been added. This version and listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims.

1. (currently amended) A method of redacting content from a document in electronic form, comprising the steps of:

selecting a geometric area on the document for redaction, said geometric area having content;

representing said geometric area as one or more annotation objects;

identifying information in the document representing content and location and nature of content;

representing said identified information as one or more content objects;

identifying content having the same geometric location as said annotation objects[[],];

removing said identified content[[],]; and

creating an electronic output file, said identified content not present in said output file, ~~to produce a redacted document~~ being producible from said output file for display.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein one or more items of information are associated with said annotation object.

3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the content is text.

4. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the redacted text is not found in the redacted document.

5 (currently amended) A method for designating portions of a document for redaction, comprising the steps of:

displaying all or a portion of the document;

designating a geographic region of the document for redaction; and

saving the designations with the document[[]],

wherein said step of designating comprises manipulating a frame displayed on the document, content having a geographic location within said frame being visible to the user during said step of manipulation.

6. (original) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of associating one or more codes with each of said designations.

7. (canceled)

8. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein said step of designating comprises designating all geographic regions containing content selected by a user for batch designation.

9. (currently amended) A storage medium having stored therein a plurality of instructions, wherein the plurality of instructions, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform the steps of:

permitting a user to select a geometric area on a document for redaction;

representing said geometric area as one or more annotation objects;

identifying information in the document representing content and location and nature of content;

representing said identified information as one or more content objects;

identifying content having the same geometric location as said annotation objects;

removing said identified content[[]]; and

creating an electronic output file, said identified content not present in said output file, ~~to produce~~ a redacted document being producible from said output file.

10. (original) The storage medium of claim 9, wherein one or more items of information are associated with said annotation object.

11. (original) The storage medium of claim 9, wherein the content is text.

12. (original) The storage medium of claim 9, wherein the text marked for redaction has been removed in the redacted document.

13 (previously amended) A storage medium having stored therein a plurality of instructions, wherein the plurality of instructions, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform the steps of:

displaying all or a portion of a document;

permitting a user to designate a geographic region of the document for redaction; and

saving the designation with the document;

wherein said step of designating comprises manipulating a frame displayed on the document, content having a geographic location within said frame being visible to the user during said step of manipulation.

14. (original) The storage medium of claim 13, wherein said plurality of instructions, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform the further step of associating one or more codes with each of said designations.

15. (canceled)

16. (original) The storage medium of claim 13, wherein said step of permitting a user to designate comprises permitting a user to select content for batch designation and designating all geographic regions containing said selected content.

17. (currently amended) A system for redacting content from a document in electronic form, comprising:

- means for permitting a user to select a geometric area on the document for redaction;
- means for representing said geometric area as one or more annotation objects;
- means for identifying information in the document representing content and location and nature of content;
- means for representing said identified information as one or more content objects;

and

- means for identifying content having the same geometric location as said annotation objects[[],];
- means for removing said identified content, and
- means for creating an electronic output file, said identified content not present in said output file, ~~to produce a redacted document~~ being producible from said output file.

18. (original) The system of claim 17, wherein one or more items of information are associated with said annotation object.

19. (original) The system of claim 17, wherein the content is text.

20. (original) The system of claim 17, wherein the information to be redacted is not found in the redacted document.

21 (previously amended) A system for designating portions of a document for redaction, comprising the steps of:

- means for displaying all or a portion of the document;
- means for permitting a user to designate a geographic region of the document for

redaction, said permitting means comprising means for manipulating a frame displayed on the document while content having a geographic location within said frame is visible to the user; and means for saving the designations with the document.

22. (original) The system of claim 21, further comprising means for associating one or more codes with each of said designations.

23. (canceled)

24. (original) The system of claim 21, wherein said means for permitting a user to designate comprises permitting a user to select content for batch designation and means for designating all geographic regions containing said selected content.

25 (currently amended) A method for designating portions of a document for redaction, comprising the steps of:

displaying all or a portion of the document;

designating a geographic region of the document for redaction;

saving the designations with the document;

wherein said step of designating comprises designating all geographic regions containing particular content selected by a user for batch designation.

26. (new) A method of redacting content from a document in portable document format (PDF), comprising the steps of:

selecting a geometric area on the document for redaction, said geometric area having content;

representing said geometric area as one or more annotation objects;

parsing said document into one or more content objects representing content and location and nature of content in said document;

identifying content from said one or more content objects having the same geometric location as said one or more annotation objects; and

creating an output PDF file having said identified content removed therefrom, wherein a redacted document is producible from said output PDF file.

27. (new) The method of Claim 26, wherein said selecting step comprises:

displaying all or a portion of the document; and

manipulating a frame displayed on the document, content having a geographic location within said frame being visible to the user during said step of manipulation.

28. (new) The method of Claim 1, wherein said information identifying step comprises:

displaying all or a portion of the document; and

manipulating a frame displayed on the document, content having a geographic location within said frame being visible to the user during said step of manipulation.

29. (new) The storage medium of Claim 9, wherein the information identifying step comprises:

displaying all or a portion of the document; and

manipulating a frame displayed on the document, content having a geographic location within said frame being visible to the user during said step of manipulation.

30. (new) The system of claim 17, wherein the information identifying means comprises:

means for displaying all or a portion of the document; and

means for manipulating a frame displayed on the document, content having a geographic location within said frame being visible to the user during said step of

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manipulation.